

March 1 - March 7, 2002

The Terra spacecraft is in nominal mode. All instruments are in nominal science mode.

The fourth in the series of six Inclination Adjust Burns for Terra was executed successfully on March 5, 2002. The next Drag Make-up Maneuver is planned for March 13. The fifth Inclination Adjust Maneuver is scheduled for March 19.

<P>The third in a series of tests using Terra to simulate the Aqua science data load on the Polar Ground Network is in progress. The current test is being executed at the peak of activity of the STS-109 HST Servicing Mission, making the test challenging from the perspective of alternating between Tracking and Data Relay Satellite System (TDRSS) and the Ground Network. By loading special tables so that Terra can use TDRS East instead of TDRS Spare, and acquiring a small amount of TDRS 171 time, it appears that an adequate amount of total TDRSS Ku-band time will be acquired to accomplish the goals of the test without data loss. The test is proceeding very well.

Ground Network tests nominally occur at the ground track repeat cycle of 16 days. The next cycle will be omitted to allow the Terra Flight Operations Team to concentrate on completing the last two Inclination Adjust Maneuvers in the series. The next Ground Network test is anticipated around the second week of April.

A MODIS calibration roll maneuver was successfully executed on March 3, 2002. There will be no MODIS roll maneuver in April as a result of the fact that the lunar geometry would require a roll angle greater than the maximum allowed by the mission rules.

A technical review on the MODIS formatter error trends was held with SBRS and the MODIS operations team.

Terra Plans:

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- Drag Make-up Maneuver
- Completion of 3rd Terra-based Aqua GN Science Data Loading Test
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